

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00876 181857Z

53

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 006895

O 181755Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6004

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 876

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK

SUBJECT: UK-ICELAND FISHERIES DISPUTE: LUNS SEEKS TO DETER
ICELANDIC DIPLOMATIC BREAK WITH UK

1. IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE AT 4:00 PM LOCAL
FEBRUARY 18, LUNS REPORTED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED FROM
ICELANDIC CHARGE FORMAL NOTIFICATION THAT UK PROPOSALS
CONVEYED BY LUNS LAST WEEK "DO NOT CONTAIN A SUFFICIENT
BASIS FOR DISCUSSION." AS RATIONALE FOR THIS POSITION, GOI
CITES THE FOLLOWING IN DOCUMENT HANDED LUNS: RECENT
RAMMING BY UK FRIGATES OF ICELANDIC COAST GUARD VESSELS
BALDUR AND TYR; CONTINUATION OF UK FISHING THAT COMPRISES
60 PERCENT OF CATCH UNDER SIZE; AND FAILURE OF UK TRAWLERS
TO OBSERVE WITHIN 12 HOURS WARNINGS CONVEYED BY ICELANDIC
COAST GUARD.

2. IN PHONE CONVERSATION WITH AGUSTSSON FEBRUARY 16
AFTER RECEIPT OF ICELANDIC STATEMENT, LUNS LEARNED
THAT GOI WILL DECIDE DURING MORNING OF FEBRUARY 19
WHETHER TO PROCEED WITH BREAK IN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS
WITH UK. LUNS SAID HE TOLD AGUSTSSON HE DEEPLY REGRETTE
GOI POSITION AND RECALLED THAT EVEN IN THE GREEK-TURKISH
DISPUTE, WHERE A NUMBER OF NATIONALS OF THOSE COUNTRIES
AHD BEEN KILLED, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO
COUNTRIES HAD NOT BEEN BROKEN. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO A BREAK,
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 00876 181857Z

LUNS PROPOSED THAT RELATIONS BE "SUSPENDED." AGUSTSSON SAID
THAT FORMULA WAS UNFAMILIAR TO HIM, BUT HE WOULD DISCUSS IT WITH
HALLGRIMSSON. IN CONCLUDING HIS CONVERSATION WITH AGUSTSSON,
LUNS COMPLIMENTED FONMIN'S PRO-NATO STANCE AND PROPOSED

THAT ICELANDIC AND UK FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET TO NEGOTIATE
IN BRUSSELS UNDER LUNS' AUSPICES. AGUSTSSON SAID SUCH AN
APPROACH WOULD NOT BE FEASIBLE AT PRESENT, BUT PERHAPS MIGHT
BE EMPLOYED LATER.

3. LUNS TOLD CHARGE THAT IF UK-ICELANDIC RELATIONS ARE BROKEN
HE WOULD CONVENE A PRIVATE MEETING OF PERMREPS LESS UK AND
ICELANDIC PERMREPS AT 4:30 PM LOCAL FEBRUARY 19.

4. LUNS ALSO STATED HE HAD INFORMED UK PERMREP OF
DEVELPPMENTS REPORTED ABOVE, BUT ASKED THAT HIS CONVERSATION
WITH AGUSTSSON BE FULLY PROTECTED.STREATOR

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 30 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 FEB 1976
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NATO00876
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 XGDS-1
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t197602100/baaaavxa.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <29 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK
To: STATE
LONDON
REYKJAVIK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006